

Message Text

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70

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 IO-13 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /051 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5290

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MAPUTO 1396

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, SF, MZ

SUBJECT: FAILURE OF RENEGOTIATION TALKS ON SA-MOZAMBIQUE MINE LABOR AGREEMENT

REF: PRETORIA 4418

1. A BUSINESSMAN WITH GOOD GOVERNMENT CONTACTS ADVISED EMBOFF THAT IN SEPTEMBER 1976 A MOZAMBIKAN GOVERNMENT DELEGATION, LED BY LABOR MINISTER MATSINHA, INFORMATION MINISTER REBELO, FINANCE MINISTER MUNGUAMBE, AND BANK OF MOZAMBIQUE DIRECTOR CASSIMO, MET SECRETLY WITH SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT COUNTER-PARTS IN SWAZILAND. THE PURPOSE WAS TO RENEGOTIATE THE SOUTH AFRICAN-MOZAMBIQUE MINE LABOR AGREEMENT WHICH EXPIRES ABOUT MARCH 77.

2. SOURCE INDICATED THE TALKS WERE A FAILURE. SAG PRESSED FOR ALTERNATION OF THE GOLD PAYMENT FORMULA TO REFLECT WORLD MARKET PRICE OF GOLD, WHICH MOZAMBIQUE REJECTED, AND THE MOZAMBIKANS PRESSED FOR VARIOUS NEW CONDITIONS ON EMPLOYMENT OF THEIR WORKERS WHICH THE SAG REJECTED. IT WAS AGREED THAT A FURTHER EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WOULD BE UNDERTAKEN BY AIDE MEMOIRE.

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3. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED REPORTS THAT THE SA MINE-

WORKER RECRUITING ORGANIZATION WENELA HAS ESTABLISHED
SEMI-SECRET RECRUITING STATIONS FOR MOZAMBICAN
WORKERS JUST ACROSS THE SOUTH AFRICAN AND SWAZI BORDERS
AND ARE DOING A GOOD BUSINESS. THEY ARE REPORTEDLY
OFFERING THE WORKERS STRAIGHT DAILY PAY WITH NO WITH-
HOLDING FOR THE MOZAMBICAN GOVERNMENT, A VIOLATION OF
THE EXISTING AGREEMENT BUT A MOVE VERY POPULAR WITH
THE WORKERS.
DE PREE

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Message Attributes

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